



October 14, 2019

VIA E-MAIL

Mr. Joseph Durso

MuckRock News

Email: 81337-81752130@requests.muckrock.com

RE: 19-FOIA-302 Metra FRA Plans

Dear Mr. Durso:

Metra's FOIA Department (the "FOIA Department") is in receipt of your request for information pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.* ("FOIA").

On October 7, 2019, the FOIA Department received your request for "the following records, as pertain to the passenger train services operated by Metra itself:

1. The current conductor certification/qualification plan submitted to and approved by FRA in accordance with 49 CFR 242 (or predecessor regulations).
2. The current engineer certification/qualification plan submitted to and approved by FRA in accordance with 49 CFR 240 (or predecessor regulations).
3. The current passenger train emergency preparedness plan (aka 'E-plan') submitted to and approved by the FRA in accordance with 49 CFR 239 for the Metra-operated passenger rail service."

Under the FOIA, a public body may extend the time to respond to a FOIA request by up to five (5) business days for a limited number of reasons. 5 ILCS 140/3(e). The FOIA Department is extending the time to respond to your request by five (5) business days for the following reason(s):

- ☐ We store the requested records in whole or in part at another location(s).
- ☐ Responding to the request requires that we collect a substantial number of specified records.
- ☐ The request is couched in categorical terms and requires that we conduct an extensive search for the records responsive to it.
- ☐ The requested records have not been located in the course of routine search and additional efforts are being made to locate them.
- ☒ In order to determine whether the requested records are exempt under Section 7 of FOIA or must be redacted in part before they are disclosed, we must have the documents reviewed by counsel.
- ☒ We cannot comply with the request for records within the five (5) business day time limit without unduly burdening or interfering with our operations.
- ☐ Before we can determine whether to provide the documents in response to your FOIA request, we must consult with [] which has a substantial interest in the determination of how to respond to this request because [].

— Before we can determine whether to provide the documents in response to your FOIA request, we must consult with [] to determine how to respond to this request because [].

The extension is needed to coordinate the efforts of multiple departments in producing the requested records. The FOIA Department plans to respond to your request by **October 21, 2019**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Angela K. Ollie".

Angela K. Ollie
Freedom of Information Officer
FOIA@metrarr.com
FOIA Hotline #312-663-3642